

Message Text

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62

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 OMB-01 AID-05 /086 W

----- 024913

R 111126Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9989

INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA POUCH

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 1812

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TRANSFERRED TO CAIRO

1. LAST WEEKEND CAIRO PRESS NOTED EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW HAFIZ ISMAIL WILL RETURN SOON TO CAIRO AND THAT HIS FAMILY ALREADY ARRIVED.

2. ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL IMPORTANT POLICY-MAKING POSITION HAFIZ ISMAIL HELD IN SADAT'S GOVERNMENT UNTIL AFTER SINAI I WAS NEGOTIATED. AS CHAIRMAN OF EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT'S VERSION OF OUR NSC, HAFIZ ISMAIL HAD HIS OWN STAFF AT PRESIDENCY, HAD SADAT'S EAR, AND HAD JUST AS MUCH IF NOT MORE INFLUENCE AS EGYPTIAN FONMIN. HE AND FAHMY WERE RIVALS FOR SADAT'S FAVOR.) HAFIZ DISAPPROVED OF SADAT'S DECISION TO ENGAGE IN STEP-BY-STEP, NOT FOR ANY ANTI-AMERICAN REASONS, BUT SIMPLY BECAUSE HE THOUGHT PROCESS WOULD INEVITABLY STALEMATE AT A POINT REMOTE FROM COMPREHENSIVE AND FINAL SETTLEMENT. AS LOYAL EGYPTIAN, HOWEVER, HE ESCHewed PUBLIC CRITICISM AND REQUESTED POST ABROAD. HE GOT MOSCOW, WHICH WAS NOT HIS FIRST CHOICE, AND NEITHER HE NOR HIS FAMILY

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WERE HAPPY THERE. IT IS CONSEQUENTLY NOT SURPRISING THAT

HE HAS DECIDED TO COME BACK.

3. COMMENT: WE DO NOT REGARD HAFIZ ISMAIL'S RETURN TO CAIRO
AS INDICATION OF ANY LIKELY SHAKE-UP IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ESTABLISHMENT HERE. HIS DESIRE TO RETURN HAS BEEN WIDELY
KNOWN FOR SOME TIME, THOUGH NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW EXACTLY
WHAT HE WILL DO WHEN HE COMES BACK.
EILTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, EG, UR, (ISMAIL, HAFIZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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